

Indicator RECOMMENDED	Riding in Car with Drinking Driver Among High School Students
<b>Justification</b>	Alcohol consumption impairs a person's ability to operate a motor vehicle in a safe manner. Motor vehicle crashes are the leading cause of death for people ages 15-19. There are over 17,000 alcohol-related traffic deaths per year. Nationally, 30% of students report riding with a drinking driver one or more times in the past month.
<b>Definition</b>	Percent of students in grades 9 through 12 reporting getting in a car within the past 30 days one or more times with someone who had been drinking
<b>Data Source</b>	Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System (YRBSS), Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)
<b>Frequency</b>	Biennial
<b>Geographic Levels</b>	National and State
<b>Demographic Categories</b>	Grade Level, Gender, and Race/Ethnicity
<b>Strengths</b>	<p>The applicability of this measure is not limited only to students who drive. It therefore may provide a more accurate assessment of the overall prevalence of risk for injury or death due to involvement in an alcohol-related crash. YRBSS estimates are typically based on larger samples than the National Survey on Drug Use and Health, and can be further broken down by grade level, gender, and race/ethnicity. Some states also collect YRBSS data for individual communities or school districts, which can be compared with their state-level data.</p>
<b>Limitations</b>	<p>As of 2003, weighted representative samples were only available for 32 states. Not all states participate, and some participating states do not provide representative samples. YRBSS is a school-based survey, so students who have dropped out of school are not represented. It is also subject to bias due to self-report, non-coverage (refusal by selected schools to participate), and non-response (refusal/no answer). Estimates for subgroups may have relatively low precision (i.e., large confidence intervals).</p>